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FILED BY THE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

2/2/01

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

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IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION:	
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF:	Administrative Action
	:
RONA WALL, LCSW	:
	:
To Practice Social Work	:
In the State of New Jersey	:
	:
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CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Social Work Examiners (hereinafter "the Board") upon receipt of a complaint from C.P. who alleges that Rona Wall (hereinafter "respondent"), Licensed Clinical Social Worker (hereinafter "LCSW") violated the Social Workers' Licensing Act while providing therapy to C.P. for approximately two and a half years. Specifically, C.P. states that while providing therapy, respondent crossed professional boundaries.

On March 15, 2000, C.P. appeared with her counsel for an investigative inquiry before the Board at which time C.P. answered

questions and described her relationship with respondent. On March 29, 2000 respondent appeared with counsel James Wulach, Esq. for an investigative inquiry into the matter before a committee of the Board which reported back to the full Board. Respondent admitted to an exchange of letters, cards, and gifts, but denied all other allegations.

Having reviewed the entire record, including the report by the Enforcement Bureau and the testimonies of C.P. and respondent at the investigative inquiries, it appears to the Board that respondent's relationship with C.P. crossed the professional boundaries between therapist and client thereby limiting respondent's objectivity, impairing her professional judgment, and increasing the risk of exploitation in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:44G-10.4, providing a basis for discipline pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

It appearing that respondent desires to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings and for good cause shown:

IT IS ON THIS *1st* DAY OF *February* 2001,
HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Respondent's license to practice social work in the State of New Jersey is hereby suspended for a period of five years commencing on February 6, 2001. Within the time period prior to suspension, respondent shall terminate all her clients, giving them appropriate referrals and records. The first year of the suspension shall be active, and the remaining four years shall be

stayed and shall serve as a period of probation conditioned upon full compliance with the terms of the within Consent Order.

2. Upon respondent's signing of the within Consent Order, respondent shall immediately return by registered mail her New Jersey license to Leslie Aronson, Executive Director, State Board of Social Work Examiners, P.O. Box 45033, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

3. The active suspension of respondent's license to practice social work means that respondent shall not hold herself out as a social worker or practice social work in this State or any other state, including but not limited to, exempt settings as defined in N.J.S.A. 45:15BB-5.

4. Respondent is hereby reprimanded for her unprofessional conduct with her client C.P.

5. Commencing upon the entry of the within Consent Order, respondent shall engage in weekly psychotherapy for a minimum of twelve months with a therapist approved by the Board, and respondent shall provide the therapist with a copy of this Consent Order. After the completion of the twelve months, the frequency of the therapy, if any, shall be determined by the therapist. Respondent shall cause the therapist to provide quarterly reports directly to the Board with respect to her attendance and progress in therapy.

6. Prior to reinstatement, respondent shall submit to a comprehensive psychological evaluation performed by a Board approved therapist. Respondent shall pay all costs of said evaluation, arrange for the therapist to provide the Board with a

copy of the evaluation, and agree to the release of any and all records relating to the evaluation.

7. Prior to reinstatement and the stayed part of the suspension, respondent shall appear before the Board to demonstrate her ability and fitness to practice social work. The Board reserves the right to decline to reinstate or to impose such restrictions or limitations as it may deem necessary. During the stayed term of the suspension, respondent shall practice only under the supervision of a Board approved supervisor who shall be provided by respondent with a copy of the Consent Order and who respondent shall cause to provide quarterly reports directly to the Board regarding the supervision.

8. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) for having crossed professional boundaries in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:44G-10.4, providing a basis for discipline pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

9. Respondent shall pay the costs of the investigation of this matter in the amount of four thousand, six hundred and sixty-five dollars (\$4,665.00).

10. Respondent shall pay the above penalty and cost, totaling seven thousand, six hundred and sixty-five dollars (\$7,665.00) in twenty monthly installments with the first installment being in the amount of three hundred and eighty-eight dollars (\$388.00) and the remaining nineteen installments being in the amount of three hundred and eighty-three dollars (\$383.00).

The first payment shall be due by the first day of the month following respondent's signing of the within Consent Order, and all subsequent payments are due every month on or before the first day of the month until the total amount is paid. All payments shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to Leslie Aronson, Executive Director, State Board of Social Work Examiners, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07101. If any payment is not timely, the full amount shall become immediately due and payable.

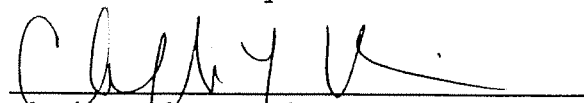
11. Upon proof of any violation of the within Consent Order or any violations of the laws of New Jersey, the Board in its discretion may activate any remaining periods of the stayed suspension or the suspension in its entirety, or impose any other appropriate sanction authorized by law.


Mariagnes Lattimer, MSW, LCSW

I have read the within Consent Order and understand its terms. I hereby consent to its entry and to be bound by the Consent Order's terms.


Rona Wall, LCSW

This Consent Order is approved as form and entry:


Christopher Weiss, Esq.
Attorney for Respondent